(b) The proposal was found acceptable by TAC subject to the project proponent obtaining necessary approvals from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the State Finance Department.

(c) Site clearance from environmental angle has been given on 20th November, 2002.

Formation of Eco-Battalion

2412. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government has proposed to the Centre for formation of an eco-battalion; if so, the details of the proposal;

(b) whether such eco-taskforce has already been set up in other States; if so, the names of the States and the kind of projects entrusted to this taskforce; and

(c) whether expenditure on such projects is shared by the Centre with the States; if so, the proportion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. The Govt. of Orissa has identified plantation works over 729.31 hectares of degraded forest land in Jagannath Prasad Demarcated Protected Forest under Chandaka Wild Life Division, Bhubaneshwar by engaging the proposed Eco-Taskforce.

(b) and (c) Eco-taskforces are at present operating in the States of Uttaranchal, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir to undertake restoration of degraded ecosystems through afforestation. The entire expenditure on these forces is met by the Central Government.

Hunting of Siberian Crane in Azamgarh

†2413. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Siberian Cranes, the guest migratory birds are being hunted illegally, in connivance with officials/employees of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

local police and forest department, in the pond spreading in the area of 989 bigha at Jamuawa Gramsabha, district Azamgarh of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to protect the Siberian birds; and

(c) by when this illegal hunting of migratory crane would be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Clean Development Mechanism for Gas Emissions

2414. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) to control gas emissions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the CDM is likely to be put in place and which metro cities it is expected to cover?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Under the Kyoto Protocol, the developed countries have targets to limit and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Clean Development Mechanism enables them to take up projects in developing countries and take credits for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This also helps the developing countries to achieve sustainable development. India is a Party to the Kyoto Protocol and already six projects have been endorsed under the Clean Development Mechanism. The Eighth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in New Delhi from 23rd October to 1st November, 2002 adopted the rules of procedure of Executive Board of the CDM as well as simplified modalities and procedures for small scale CDM projects which will be of interest to developing countries, including India.

Polluting Industries

†2415. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the State-wise and area-wise details of Industries in the

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